Itam #63

As many of you already know Public Safety will be and continues to be my number one priority and the City's number one priority.

This ordinance would require developers to work with the City to improve Public Safety for the families in our community. We have had too many accidents and near misses from large commercial vehicles having to back out of long residential streets. One near miss for one child is just too many.

When the City worked with the homebuilding community, we allowed for a reduction in the street width to 24 feet in order to allow higher density and as part of the sustainability initiatives with the City. The City was unable to foresee many of the challenges that our Fire, Police, Trash, Delivery and other large trucks would face without having through streets or a turn-around. Crash gates do not provide the solution.

We cannot have a situation where our public safety vehicles are trapped on a street or delayed from responding to the next call because of other vehicles blocking them on a road. This ordinance requires that there be a cul-de-sac for these large vehicles to turn around, or for the developers to comply with the sustainability initiatives, which would require thru roads and connectivity.

This ordinance also provides flexibility for the City Council to consider hardship cases from developers by providing a waiver option. Any time we have the opportunity to change our code to protect families in the Northwest, I believe we should.